

PATENT
IBM Docket No. RAL920000112US2

REMARKS

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed September 30, 2003.

The Examiner has partitioned the claims into three groups. In support of the partitioning of the claims the Examiner, in part, argues that the sub-combination as a utility by itself or in other combinations (MPEP section 806.05(c)). According to the Examiner in the instant case, the combination as claimed does not require the particulars of the sub-combination as claimed because Group III does not require memory partitioning, bandwidth regulation or hardware component design.

In response, applicants elect Group I (Claims 1-9 and 25-28) for examination and traverse the partitioning as applied to Groups I and III. Regarding Group III, it is applicants contention that Group III should be examined with the Group I claims. Claims 23 and 24 are method claims and relate to reading and writing data into multiple memories. Claims 25 and 26 relate to reading simultaneously from different memories. The Examiner's argument that Group III does not require a memory partition appears to be incorrect. Applicants direct the attention of the Examiner to claim 23, lines 5 and 6, which requires the partition frame be written into different memories if adjoining. How can one write into different memory elements if the memory elements are not partitioned into separate units. It is clear from this language that Group III claims does require memory partitioning and as such should be examined with the Group I claims. Other evidence supporting combining

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Group I and Group II claims is that the claims are classified in the same class and subclass (i.e. class 77, subclass 150 - see Examiner's classification). Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner combine Group I and Group III claims and examine them together.

Regarding Group II claims, applicants do not traverse the restriction. As a consequence, Group II (claims 10-22) are canceled without prejudice. Applicants reserve the right to file a divisional application on the canceled claims 10-22.

It is believed the present amendment answers all the issues raised by the Office Action. Reconsideration of the restriction as applied to Groups I and III is requested and examining Groups I and III as a single group is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,



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